Management standards

If your wipes meet the conditions on the previous page, you must follow the management standards below to properly manage them under the exclusions.

Table 1: Management standards for solvent-contaminated wipes

Management	Instructions
Storage	Accumulate, store, and transport wipes in non-leaking, closed containers that will contain free liquids should they occur.
Labeling	Label containers "Excluded Solvent-Contaminated Wipes."
Accumulation Time Limits	Accumulate wipes up to 180 days from the start date of accumulation prior to being sent for cleaning or disposal.
Condition of Wipes Prior to Laundering or Disposal	Wipes must contain no free liquids prior to laundering or disposal. Containers holding the wipes must also contain no free liquids before you transport off site. "No free liquids" is defined in WAC 173-303-040 and is based on the EPA Methods Test 9095B (Paint Filter Liquids Test), which is incorporated by reference.
Free Liquids	Free liquids removed from the wipes or from the wipes container must be managed according to applicable regulations of Chapter 173-303 WAC.

You must send your wipes to an eligible handling facility

Reusable wipes must go to a laundry or dry cleaner whose discharge, if any, is regulated by sections 301 and 402, or section 307 of the Clean Water Act. It is your responsibility to ensure the destination facility meets this criteria. Disposal of wastewater resulting from laundering solvent-contaminated wipes must never be discharged to an on-site septic system.

Disposable wipes must be sent to a dangerous waste combustor, boiler, or industrial furnace regulated under 40 C.F.R. Parts 264, 265, or 266 Subpart H. You also have the option to send solvent-contaminated wipes to a permitted dangerous waste or hazardous waste landfill.

Generator Recordkeeping

You must maintain documentation that includes:

- Name and address of the laundry facility, dry cleaner, dangerous waste landfill, or dangerous waste combustor.
- Documentation that the 180-day accumulation time limit is being met.
- Description of the process the generator is using to meet the "no free liquids" condition.

How do Washington's wipes exclusions differ from EPA?

- 1. Ecology does not allow disposal of solvent-contaminated wipes managed under this exclusion at a municipal landfill or non-dangerous waste incinerator.
- 2. Wipes that designate only for state criteria may be managed under these exclusions.

Oily rags

You may manage rags or wipes contaminated with free flowing used oil under the used oil rules if the used oil has not been removed or separated from the rag.

If you have drained, squeezed, centrifuged, etc. your wipes to remove free flowing used oil, they are considered solid waste and must be designated.

Paint and stain-contaminated rags

Wipes contaminated with paints and stains that include a solvent chemical as an ingredient typically do not meet the listing description under WAC 173-303-082 for F001-F005 listed waste.

However, wipes used with solvents (such as mineral spirits and paint thinners) to clean painted or stained surfaces may qualify if they:

- Are not contaminated with a listed dangerous waste (other than solvents).
- Do not designate as a federal toxic waste from non-solvent contaminants (like TCLP metals).

Paint and stain-contaminated rags may also be eligible for the wipes exclusions if they designate only for state-criteria found in WAC 173-303-100 (such as WT02 for toxicity).

Still unsure?

If you're unsure whether your wipes qualify under the "solvent-contaminated wipes" definition, contact a hazardous waste specialist at one of Ecology's regional offices.